

331/04204

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In regard to the application of: Ilan SHALEV

Serial No : US Nat'l Phase of PCT/IL03/00254 Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Filed : Herewith

Examiner: Unknown

For : Vascular Coupling Device

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant respectfully directs the attention of the Examiner to art cited with respect to PCT/IL03/00254 of which the current application is a U.S. national application under 35 U.S.C. §371. This application also claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/367,263.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to review and consider this art, in accordance with MPEP §2001.06, MPEP §1893.03(e) and MPEP §1893.03(g) and to indicate in the first office action that he has considered this art. Additionally, the Examiner is respectfully requested to cite those prior art publications mentioned in this application which the Examiner considers to be material or relevant to the present claims.

Further, in order to comply with discretionary regulations 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98, attached is an Equivalent to Form PTO-1449 listing the cited art. Also attached is a copy<sup>1</sup> of the art. This art contains information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to allow the present application to issue as a patent.

<sup>1</sup> To the extent that a document is listed and no copy of same is attached, then such document is not at the present time available to the undersigned or is available in the national stage file. If a listed document is not in the English language and an English translation is readily available, such translation is also attached; if translation is not attached, it is not readily available to the undersigned. If a foreign language patent document is cited, and an English language equivalent is known to the undersigned, then such an equivalent patent is also cited on the attached form along with the corresponding foreign language patent and a connecting arrow indicated therebetween; if no such English language equivalent is cited then none is known to the undersigned.

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Applicant wishes to point out that items 1-3, 7-9, 12, 13, 15, 16, and 18 were cited on the PCT International Search Report. Copies of these items are not attached as they are available in the national stage file.

Applicant further wishes to point out that items 4-6, 10, 11, 14, and 17 are not attached, as the USPTO waived the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications in all U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003. See MPEP §609 III A(2).

Additionally, item 18 is in a foreign language. A copy of the English language abstract is attached to the reference.

In accordance with MPEP §609 it is requested that each document cited (including any mentioned in Applicant's specification which is not repeated on the attached PTO-1449 form or equivalent thereof) be given thorough consideration and be cited of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing on the PTO-1449 form or its equivalent, so that it will appear on the face of the patent issuing on the present application, even if the Examiner does not consider it sufficiently pertinent to use in a rejection, or otherwise does not believe that the guidelines for citation have been fully complied with.

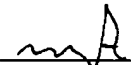
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.104(a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form.

Early and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

September 26, 2004  
William H. Dippert, Esq.  
Reed Smith LLP  
599 Lexington Avenue, 29<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10022-7650

Tel: (212) 521-5400

Respectfully submitted,  
Ilan SHALEV

  
Maier FENSTER,  
Registration No. 41,016

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)	<b>ATTY DOCKET NO.</b> 331/04204	<b>SERIAL NO.</b> US NAT'L OF PCT/IL03/00254
	<b>APPLICANT(S)</b> Ilan SHALEV	
	<b>FILING</b> Herewith	<b>GROUP</b> To be assigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Filing date if appropriate
	1	958,854	05/24/1910	BUNN, O. L.			
	2	4,564,014	01/14/1986	FOGARTY, T. J. et al.			
	3	4,808,158	02/28/1989	KREUZER, R. et al.			
	4	5,041,097	08/20/1991	JOHNSON, G. W.			
	5	5,330,435	07/19/1994	VAILLANCOURT, V. L.			
	6	5,380,305	01/10/1995	GHOURL, A. F.			
	7	5,407,807	04/18/1995	MARKUS, S. L.			
	8	5,628,733	05/13/1997	ZINREICH, S. J. et al.			
	9	5,638,812	06/17/1997	TURNER, M. W.			
	10	5,707,359	01/13/1998	BUFALINI, B.			
	11	5,769,816	06/23/1998	BARBUT, D. et al.			
	12	5,885,258	03/23/1999	SACHDEVA, R. C. L. et al.			
	13	5,904,670	05/18/1999	SCHREINER, D. L.			
	14	6,077,248	06/20/2000	ZUMSCHLINGE, R.			
	15	6,146,396	11/14/2000	KÓNYA, A. et al.			
	16	6,183,450	02/06/2000	LOIS, W. A.			

## U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Filing date if appropriate
	17	2002/0128543	09/12/2002	LEONHARDT, S.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	18	FR 2 808 991	11/23/2001	FRANCE			✓	

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
<small>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>	

Equivalent to Form PTO-1449

Patent and Trademark Office\*U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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